

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: WG STUDY OF AIR MANPOWER

REFS: A. NATO 5820 C. STATE 229321 C. NATO 5828

D. NATO 5851

1. THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE MISSION WITH
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BACKGROUND MATERIAL AND PREFERRED APPROACH TO THE FIVE

QUESTIONS THE WG IS NOW REVIEWING ON NO-INCREASE OF AIR MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES. MISSION SHOULD DRAW ON THIS MATERIAL (KEYED TO QUESTIONS AS LISTED IN PARA 6, REF D) AS APPROPRIATE TO EXPEDITE STUDY.

2. QUESTION A, ON PLANNED INCREASES AND IMPROVEMENTS: REF B PARA 7 OUTLINES THE PLANS AND IMPROVEMENTS OF THE US. THE SPC DEBATE HAS IDENTIFIED SMALL PLANNED INCREASES BY CANADA AND UK (REF A PARA 8) (FYI WE ARE NOT CERTAIN OF THE STATUS OF THESE INCREASES, SINCE BOTH THE UK AND CANADA ARE UNDERGOING DEFENSE REVIEWS. WE ALSO NOTE THAT THE NETHERLANDS PLAN A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE (REF C PARA 1(C) 3) WHICH WOULD MORE THAN COMPENSATE FOR SUCH MINOR FLUCTUATIONS, BUT THIS MAY BE CONTINGENT ON PHASE II REDUCTIONS. END FYI) SINCE NO OTHER NATION HAS SUGGESTED A NEED TO INCREASE ITS MANNING LEVELS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM. BUT EVEN IF THERE WERE TO BE AN INCREASE IN

TOTAL NATO AIR MANPOWER IN THE NGA, OUR NO-INCREASE PROPOSAL DOES NOT INCLUDE SERVICE SUB-CEILINGS. SUCH A FLUCTUATION COULD BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE ALLIANCE BY GROUND MANPOWER REDUCTIONS.

3. QUESTIONS B ON EXCEPTIONS AND TRAINING: AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, WE BELIEVE THAT THE OFFER SHOULD BE CONVEYED SIMILARLY TO THE NO-INCREASE ASSURANCE ON GROUND MANPOWER, I.E., WITH A CAVEAT THAT THE CURRENT PRACTICES OF TRAINING AND ROTATION WOULD BE EXCEPTED.

4. QUESTION C ON HYPOTHETICAL FUTURE CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING INCREASES: THE EXTENSION OF THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT TO AIR MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES SHOULD BE VIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF OUR OVERALL OBJECTIVES. IN A FAVORABLE EAST-WEST POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH PHASE I WITHDRAWALS INCLUDING A SOVIET TANK ARMY HAD BEEN AGREED AND THERE WAS A NO-INCREASE ASSURANCE LIMITING PACT GROUND AND AIR MANPOWER, WE DO NOT FORESEE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH WE WOULD WISH TO INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY NATO AIR MANNING LEVELS SHORT OF EVENTS JEOPARDIZING THE ENTIRE MOFR

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AGREEMENT AND THE RESULTING EAST-WEST RELATIONSHIP.

5. QUESTION D ON RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS TO RATIONALIZE AND SPECIALIZE NATO FORCE STRUCTURE COULD POSSIBLY ALTER THE MANNING OF NATIONAL AIR FORCES, ALTHOUGH WE KNOW OF NO SPECIFIC PLANS THAT WOULD HAVE THAT RESULT. (IN FACT, EVEN IN PROPOSING THAT THE U.S. AND U.S.S.R. MIGHT REDUCE THEIR AIR MANPOWER IN THE NGA, WE DO NOT SEE A

SUBSEQUENT NEED FOR THE AIR FORCES OF OUR ALLIES TO INCREASE THEIR MANNING LEVELS.) IN ANY CASE, WE NOTE THAT THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT WOULD BE WITHOUT NATIONAL SUBCEILINGS, AND THE OVERALL ALLIANCE AGGREGATE AIR MANNING LEVELS WOULD NOT HAVE TO INCREASE IN ORDER TO INSTITUTE A RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION PLAN. WE ARE NOT PROPOSING SERVICE SUB-CEILINGS WITHIN THE NO-INCREASE PROPOSAL. THE NO-INCREASE WOULD APPLY TO THE AGGREGATE OF GROUND AND AIR FORCES. THUS THE TRANSFER OF SPACES FROM ONE ROLE OR SERVICE TO ANOTHER WOULD NOT BE PROHIBITED.

6- QUESTION E ON FLANKS: WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT EXTENSION OF THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON GROUND MANPOWER TO AIR MANPOWER WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT THE SECURITY OF FLANK STATES ONLY FORCES WITHIN THE REDUCTION AREA ARE COVERED. IT WOULD NOT AFFECT AIR MANPOWER IN FLANK STATES. THE EXTENDED NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT WOULD THEREFORE NOT INHIBIT NATO'S ABILITY TO REINFORCE THE FLANKS IN EMERGENCIES. INGERSOLL

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